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Kansas State Ousts NSA

This past summer the annual National Student Association (NSA) Congress was held on the campus of Kansas State University in Manhattanville, Kan. (see Human Events, Sept. 14, 1968, page 12). This past November 20 Kansas State University became the first college during the current fall semester to disaffiliate with the National Student Association.

By a margin of 4 to 1-3,731 to 943-students at the university voted in a campus-wide referendum to have their school disassociate itself from the radical NSA, as have some 100 other schools in the past. It was, reported the student newspaper, what "may be a record number of votes in any K-State election for referendum."

The campaign to oust NSA was led by Kansas State members of Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) and College Young Republicans (CYR), under the aegis of the STOP-NSA committee (Students to Oppose Participation in the National Student Association). The young conservatives distributed literature documenting such national NSA political positions as advocating admission of Red China to the U.N., condemnation of U.S. participation in the war in Viet Nam, support of achieving "Black Power" by "any means necessary," and championing of Student Power a la Columbia.

KSU student Robert Fyfe, leader of both YAF and STOP-NSA, commented after the landslide election, "The majority of KSU students are not conservative, but moderate, and they have no use for Student Power in the tradition of Columbia and Berkeley. And after having had the Congress here, NSA proponents found it impossible to convince students that NSA is not radical."

On the opposite side, the referendum result was doubly embarrassing for KSU student body President Robert Morrow. He had just been appointed midwest coordinator for NSA, only to see NSA tossed off his campus by the biggest margin by which it has been kicked off any major U.S. campus. The KSU students "voted as they did because they didn't understand or have the time to do research to understand," rationalized the NSA's "man without a country."